

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT STEVE MARTIN

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Steve Martin, who has unselfishly given over 35 years of exceptional service to the nation as a steward of our national parks.

During his years as a park ranger and superintendent, Mr. Martin has championed the mission of the National Park Service in protecting the nation's many natural and cultural resources, has resolutely defended parks from degradation and harm, and has generously nurtured new generations of park employees and managers to serve as park stewards.

His career encompassed exemplary service in leadership positions at Grand Teton, Denali and Gates of Arctic National Parks, and in staff positions at Yellowstone and Voyageurs National Parks, where he persistently fostered Americans' deep love for their parks.

In his time as superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park, Mr. Martin served as a tireless advocate for the park, its staff, and its many visitors. Through his efforts to initiate and complete extensive upgrades to the crumbling infrastructure at the Grand Canyon, he helped improve the quality of life for the Havasupai tribe and for park employees, as well as enriching the experiences of the 4.5 million people who visit the Grand Canyon each year.

Mr. Martin fought to protect the South Rim of the Canyon and the Grand Canyon watershed from the toxic threat of uranium mining, which would have polluted the lifeline of the west, the Colorado River, and put at great risk the wildlife and people that call this area home.

He has provided crucial leadership in establishing science as the decisive tool in policy decisions, particularly in his tenacity in demanding Colorado River flow rates that benefit the riparian ecosystem found at the heart of the Grand Canyon.

Serving as the Intermountain Regional Director and the Deputy Director for the National Park Service, Mr. Martin was instrumental in preserving critical management policies which will continue to guide the National Park Service as it prepares to celebrate its centennial.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting that we honor the 35 years of service that Steve Martin has given to the National Park Service, and that we recognize his passion and advocacy to protect and preserve our National Parks.

HONORING TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE JERRY MADDEN—2010 PUBLIC OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize before the United States House of Representatives Governing magazine's 2010 Public Official of the Year, and my good friend from the great state of Texas, Jerry Madden.

State Representative Madden has faithfully served the people of the 67th district since his election to the Texas Legislature back in 1992. In his nine consecutive terms, he has held honored roles on twelve committees, including four years as the Chairman of the House Committee on Corrections where he is sitting Vice Chair.

While Madden is the recipient of countless awards, including being named to Texas Monthly's 10 Best Legislators list and the University of Texas at Dallas' Distinguished Alumni group, this top-notch legislator's latest accolade comes as national recognition for turning the State of Texas into a shining model of corrections reform.

A West Point trained engineer by trade, Madden tackled corrections reform with facts and statistics. He found that targeting a relatively small amount of state funds toward treatment, mental health, and rehabilitation programs, rather than spending billions on new prisons, would yield a decrease in the prison population. With that in mind, Madden and his colleagues on the Committee on Corrections formulated public policy that worked. They turned a projected 15,000 inmate rise in the Texas prison population into a population decrease, saving taxpayers money and, more importantly, rescuing lives along the way.

I have known Representative Madden for over a quarter of a century. I have seen him rise from a local leader to the national spokesperson for Texas on Criminal Justice. I can vouch for the testimony he has given Congress and know the respect that national organizations have for his work. In fact, just this month Jerry served as a guest speaker at my Congressional Youth Advisory Council meeting where he shared his extensive knowledge of state government with local high school students.

For his service to America in the United States Army, his service to Texas in the State Legislature, and his priceless contribution to our society through innovative corrections reform, it is with pride and gratitude that I commend State Representative Jerry Madden for a job exceptionally well done.

To my good friend—congratulations, God bless you, and I salute you!

A TRIBUTE TO TESSIE CECIL

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tessie Cecil, who has dedicated her career to the citizens of New Haven and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Cecil served for 20 years as the Mayor of New Haven, Ky., in Nelson County, where she consistently gave her all to the community.

A native of the Philippines, Cecil met and married her husband, Don, while he was stationed with the U.S. Navy in her native country over 30 years ago. She and Don moved to New Haven to raise a family and in 1979, shortly after the move, she was hired as the New Haven city clerk.

Cecil is known for her work to improve the water and sewer systems, sidewalks and parks. She is also proud of her involvement with the veterans' monument in front of City Hall and the Kentucky Railway Museum.

Cecil is a person of integrity and has demonstrated a strong passion for making her community a better place. I join with the citizens of New Haven in thanking her for her years of relentless service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tessie Cecil for her commitment to the citizens of New Haven, Nelson County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I was not present for votes on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 and morning votes on Wednesday, December 15. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 628, "yes" on rollcall vote 629, "yes" on rollcall vote 630, "yes" on rollcall vote 631, "yes" on rollcall vote 632, "yes" on rollcall vote 633, "yes" on rollcall vote 634.

IN MEMORY OF DR. JAMES EDWARD BYRD

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 15, 2010*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember my friend, Dr. James Edward Byrd. He was kind and generous and a man of great character that deeply loved God and country. Dr. Byrd passed away on November 23, 2010 after suffering complications from heart surgery.

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